

GA

THE GEORGE-ANNE

LAST HOME GAME TONIGHT

Senior Jelani Hewitt will lead the Eagles against UT Arlington at Hanner Fieldhouse tonight at 7:30 p.m.

SEE PAGE 11

BRANDON WARNOCK/THE GEORGE-ANNE



BEHIND THE SET OF

"METAMORPHOSES"

SEE PAGE 6

Student Profile

BY IAN LEONARD
The George-Anne staff



Rebecca Murphy is a junior performance and writing double major who hails from Cherokee high school in Cherokee county

Georgia. She plays the flute and also has a passion for writing.

Murphy is a part of a small fraction of students who is

pursuing a double major. Murphy recalled why she decided to double major in writing and performance "I know I have a passion for music, and I do love performing, but as far as a career goes, I'm more interested in musicology."

Musicology is the study and analysis of music. Murphy says that the writing degree would be helpful because she's very interested in writing papers on the theory of music, and also teaching music history and theory.

Outside of her passion for music, Murphy cares for her guinea pig, Bela Bartok, who is named after a famous 20th century composer.

Glory turns 30 Saturday

BY JOZSEF PAPP
The George-Anne staff

Glory, one of Georgia Southern's bald eagles, will turn 30-years-old on Saturday, March 7. The Center for Wildlife Education is planning a birthday celebration.

The day won't be especially busy, but the Wildlife Center will host a flight show at 2 p.m. and a wildlife show at 3 p.m. featuring the Center's bald eagles, Glory, Freedom, and Franklin, and its golden eagle, Phoenix, Casey McCall Corbett said. In addition, birthday cake and door prizes will be given out to guests to celebrate the occasion.

"Turning 30 is a big day for Glory," Corbett said. "We want to make it all about her."

Visitors will also get to see a special video showing Glory's background and how she became part of the GSU family. Corbett says the video will give viewers a chance to know Glory better.

"They definitely have their own personalities," Corbett said. "She has a dominant personality and she's a big girl. She's not mean or vicious, but she's just a mighty bird. She's definitely deserving of the bald eagle name."

The Wildlife Center opens at 1 p.m. on Saturday. Admission is \$2 for adults; \$1 for children (ages 3-11), military (with I.D.) and senior citizens; and free for children under 3 and GSU faculty, staff and students.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GEORGIASOUTHERN.EDU



AMELIA APTHEKER

FASHION MERCHANDISING



What's Trending?

Filmed and edited by
Jordan Felton

The latest episode of "What's Trending?" is here. Our reporter Jordan asked students around campus to write a #DearMe letter to their younger selves. Others were asked to #EncourageEveryoneInFourWords. Check out the full video at thecirclegsu.com to see if you or someone you know made it in!

Tickets for Archie

BY CAITLYN OLIVER
The George-Anne staff

Tickets to see Archie Manning speak on campus are on sale and based on a first come, first serve basis. Tickets are free and will not be sold at the door.

Students are able to buy tickets March 2 through March 10 and will need to present their Eagle ID at the time of ticket pick-up. Tickets are limited to one ticket per person.

Faculty and staff are able to get tickets March 5 through March 10 and will also need Eagle ID. Tickets are limited to two tickets per person.

Tickets will be distributed from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily at the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement in the Russell Union room 1056.

Manning will speak March 27 at 7p.m. in Hanner Fieldhouse. Doors close at 6:45p.m.

Music theory in harmony with geometry

BY CAITLYN OLIVER
The George-Anne staff

Dmitri Tymoczko, a music professor at Princeton University, will come to Georgia Southern University to speak about his theory that geometry can depict musical chords.

Tymoczko's method can find the similarities in seemingly different genres, like medieval music and modern jazz.

The presentation will be

based of of his article "The Geometry of Musical Chords." Published in "Science" magazine, it was the first music-theory article the magazine had printed since its start 130 years ago.

Tymoczko will speak March 5 at 5:30 p.m. in the Information Technology Building in room 1004.

WEATHER BAR

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WOMEN AT WORK

Female engineering majors at GSU

BY NADIA DREID

The George-Anne staff

Growing up, Beverly Hairston never got the idea that girls couldn't do everything boys could. In a family of mostly girls, Hairston was expected to help do anything that needed to be done.

"Me and my sister, my mom always made us [help]," Hairston said. "I need you to move this. I actually enjoyed doing a lot of those things for my mom when she would ask me."

Now Hairston is a senior construction management major who wants to build things for a living and hopes to own her own construction company. As a woman, however, this makes her part of a small group. According to the National Center for Education Statistics, women earned only 9.8 percent of the construction management bachelor's degrees awarded in the 2011-2012 academic year.

Hairston isn't surprised by those numbers - in many of her classes, she's the only girl.

GIRL IN A BOY'S WORLD

"This semester, I'm the only girl in one class," Hairston said. "When I first started, I was the only girl for all my classes unless I was taking something outside of my major."

There has been a public push lately to bring more women into science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. According to the National Foundation of Science, 66 percent of fourth grade girls enjoy science and math - but those interests don't translate

into college majors and careers, with women earning only 20 percent of bachelor degrees in STEM fields.

Hairston said she came into the major knowing there would be a gender gap, but not how large it would be. She thinks that worked in her favor.

“

They're humans just like me. They do the same exact things that I do, so why can't I be seen just as they're seen?

BEVERLY HAIRSTON
senior construction
management major

"It probably has helped me not knowing the numbers," Hairston said. "For those girls who do know the numbers and who are possibly interested, that would be one of the main fear factors."

The novelty of being one of the only girls in class can also become tiresome, said senior civil engineering major Callie Stiles.

"Some professors will treat you differently - like sometimes they make jokes about me being a girl," Stiles said. "They're light-hearted jokes, they're not offensive - they're just kind of annoying after a while. Yes, I realize I am a girl. Thank you."

WHERE ARE ALL THE GIRLS?

Girls are making strides, particularly in the physical sciences. In 2006, women

received half of the bachelor's degrees in chemistry and a majority of the bachelor's degrees in biology, according to the AAUW.

Some women think their gender gives them an advantage in their male-dominated fields. Stiles said that being a woman in a sea of men makes her stand out, which is important when interviewing for jobs.

"I already stick out, so I'm already memorable to the recruiters," Stiles said.

Stiles also thinks that women have certain strengths that could help improve STEM fields, particularly in engineering.

"Women are very meticulous. We pay attention to every detail, which is important in engineering," Stiles said. "Say I was constructing a building, but I neglected one column. That one column could lead to the entire place collapsing."

Woman can provide an important balance in the workplace, Hairston said.

"Everything needs a clear balance. If you let a woman come into that role, you would see a different structure," Hairston said.

And men want more women in the field too, Hairston said.

"A lot of them came into it not knowing there would be no women," Hairston said. "They have conversations with the few of us and they're like 'Why doesn't anyone else join? What do we have to do to get more girls to be a part of this?' and it's a huge question mark."

To help create a sense of community, Hairston is in the process of co-founding Women in Construction, an organization for women in the major and those who may be interested, so they won't feel alone. Women shouldn't avoid a field they're passionate about because of their gender or fear of being perceived a certain way by men, she said.

Terrorism and Islam

Author to tackle tough issues

BY NADIA DREID

The George-Anne staff

Zohra Sarwari wears a lot of hats. She is an author, life coach, international speaker and homeschooling mother of four. This Thursday, March 5, she'll speak to Georgia Southern University students about terrorism and how it does or does not relate to her religion, Islam.

"It's a crash course on Muslims, Islam, terrorism, all of it at once," Sarwari said.

The speech will pull heavily from one of Sarwari's books, titled "No! I am not a terrorist!" which is also the name of the event. She said her speech will cover three larger issues: defining terrorism, understanding what a Muslim is and discussing why some Muslim women dress the way they do.

Sarwari also plans to tackle several smaller issues within those larger ones.

"Who are Muslims, what do they worship, what are they not?" Sarwari said of the questions she aims to answer during the event. "The difference between culture and religion... and then tackling some current event issues that are happening right now. How do we face them and how do we understand them and really deal with it at the end of the day?"

The talk was organized by the Center for International Studies, the Multicultural Student Center and the Arabic Club. Youssef Salhi, faculty advisor for the Arabic Club, said current events were what inspired the organizations to bring Sarwari to campus.

"We decided to bring somebody to campus to talk about issues that have been happening for a long time with Muslim extremism, especially with ISIS's barbaric acts in Iraq and Syria and the terrorist attack on the French satirical newspaper and also what happened to the three Muslims students in North Carolina," Salhi said.

Sarwari said she wants the event to be an opportunity for students to get answers for any questions they may have. If they are too shy to ask out loud, they can write the questions down - what is important is getting the answers. If anything, she said she would like students to leave the lecture feeling safer around Muslims.

"A lot of people are afraid of Muslims," Sarwari said. "More than half the country is afraid of us, so I want them to not be afraid of us."

The event will be held Thursday, March 5, at 6 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center.

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IT'S A CRASH

COURSE ON

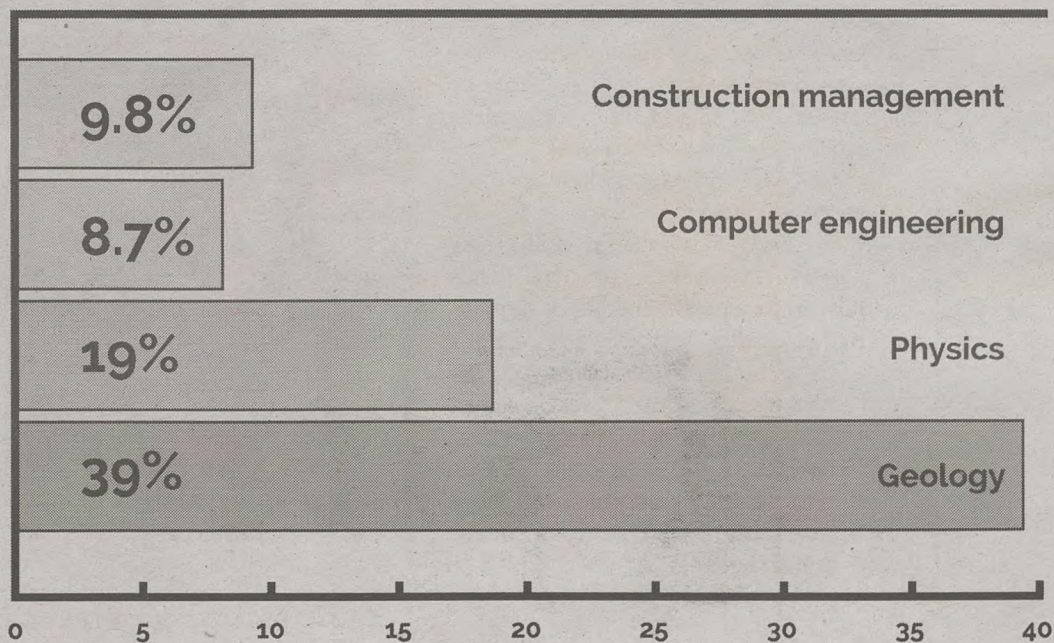
MUSLIMS, ISLAM,

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ZOHRA SARWARI
Public speaker
and author

Percentage of Bachelor's degrees in Engineering earned by women in the 2011-2012 academic year



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Keeping you in the know about Student Affairs and Enrollment Management events, designed with you in mind.

MARCH 2

Archie Manning Lecture & Ticket Distribution

The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management and the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement are proud to welcome former NFL Quarterback Archie Manning to campus on Tuesday, March 24, 2015. The event starts at 7 p.m. and will be held at Hanner Fieldhouse. It is free and open to the public; however, due to limited seating, tickets will be required for admission.

All student tickets are distributed from the Office of Student Leadership and Civic Engagement, Russell Union Suite 1056. Students must present their Eagle ID to receive tickets. Tickets will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. For more information on the event please visit Georgiasouthern.edu/Manning.

UPB Promotional Table

Time: 11:00 - 1:30 pm

Location: Dining Commons Lobby

The University Programming Board will be promoting the Spring Bling 15 Migos Concert. Kiosks will be available for you to purchase and print your tickets on the spot. Debit or credit card will only be accepted. Contact Information: UPB@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

MARCH 3

UPB Unplugged

Location: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm, William Center Multipurpose Room

The University Programming Board will be giving 2 lucky students the chance to win tickets to the Spring Bling 15 Migos Concert!! The event provides an opportunity for students to showcase their talents at an open mic. BRING YOUR STUDENT ID! OSA@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

MARCH 4

SOLD Series Workshop: Building By Demonstrating Presented by: Dr. Chris MacDonald

Time/Location: 5:30 - 6:30 pm, Russell Union 2047

Is it easier to do what you are told or do what you are shown? Create leaders in your organization by showcasing the attributes your group needs the most. Workshop series is FREE! Bring your Eagle ID. Contact Information: OSA@GeorgiaSouthern.edu

MARCH 5

Belay Clinic will be held at 7 pm. in the Southern Adventures room as part of the Climbing Clinic Series.

No pre-requisites are required and if interested visit

<http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/southern-adventures/skills-clinics/climbing-clinics/>.

MARCH 10

Tennis Singles registration is closing today.

So, if you haven't signed up yet, be sure to do so. <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/intramurals/get-involved/how-to-register/>.

Open High Challenge Course is today from 5-7 pm.

Pre-Registration is required, to learn how to register visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/southern-adventures/open-high-challenge-course/>.

Olympic Lifting Program ends today. This is a six-week training program to allow participants to become more familiar with the olympic lifts.

For more information, visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/fitness/fitness-programs/olympic-lifting-program/>.

Mardi Gras Madness

Time: 6 - 9 PM.

Location: Georgia Avenue, in front of the Dining Commons
Come out for free food, music, guest speakers, a booth decorating contest, judged by President Brooks Keel, and an assortment of activities centered around safe alcohol practices, designed by all your favorite student organizations.
Contact: Vice President of Programming Michael Palmer (RHA) mp03894@georgiasouthern.edu

MARCH 10

Lifeguard Instructor Classes end today!

It is \$135 to participate and there is a minimum of three and a maximum of six participants allowed. Participants must be American Red Cross Lifeguard Certified. For more information, visit <http://recreation.georgiasouthern.edu/aquatics/aquatic-programs/american-red-cross-training/>.

Student Leadership Awards

Recognize and award yourself, a friend, exemplary students and student organizations! Take a moment to complete the short nomination form for any deserving student leaders or student organizations at <http://students.georgiasouthern.edu/LeadServe/leadershipawards/>. All nominations are due no later than Friday, March 13th by 5:00 PM.

YOUR STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES AT WORK

THE WEEKLY BUZZ IS SPONSORED BY THE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT

PREPARING FOR REGISTRATION

The good and the bad from advisors

BY CHANCE SHELTON

The George-Anne staff

To some students, meeting with their advisors to set up the path leading to the rest of their college and life career may seem exciting, to others it is the most stressful part of the semester. As advisors are expected to be the most knowledgeable when it comes down to a student's academic standing, students often get stressed out when they feel their advisor doesn't know as much as they need to.

Why do you feel students may not enjoy the advising process?

"I think for most students it takes a little while to get comfortable with their advisors, however some jump right in," Christy Curley, academic advisor in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences for literature, philosophy and writing and linguistics majors, said.

Curley graduated with a bachelor's in english writing, philosophy and linguistics, with a master's degree in counseling education with an emphasis in higher education.

Pam Smith, an advisor in the College of Health and Human Sciences, feels the reason some students have bad experiences with their advisors is due to a lack of information. "They don't know what to expect and that's a problem we should look at it in a collaborative effort during advisement," Smith said.

Smith earned her bachelor's in nursing and she has a master's in higher education student services.

"Somebody may just not like it overall. When you're advising so many people they may just have a bad experience because hard conversations have to be had and could be difficult," Bryan Bulmer, who is also an advisor in the CHHS, said.

Bulmer earned his bachelor's degree in religious education with a minor in counseling and a master's of religious education.

How do you feel about students seeking their professors for academic advising?

"Faculty play a very important role, I view them as mentors and students should develop a relationship with them," Lisa Sapp, an advisor in the College of Business Administration, said.

Sapp has an undergraduate degree in fashion merchandising with a minor in marketing, and a master's in counselor education.

"I see my professors more than my advisors, so they know me better and it's a more personal relationship, I feel they're more available than my advisor is," Charlotte McDonald, sophomore international studies major, said.

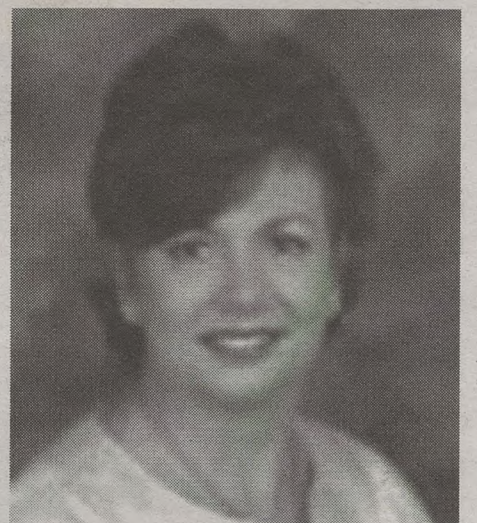
Smith, CHHS advisor, stated that most advisors feel students should definitely have a strong relationship with their professors since they are the ones actually in the specific field each day.

The attitudes toward advisement come from many different perspectives and experiences, some great and not so great. However, among those who feel as if their advisor isn't the best for them, connections among professors are made and which sometimes are even better because of the hands on knowledge that they provide.

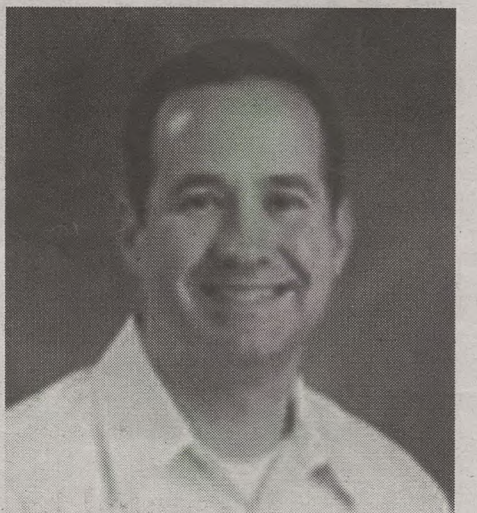


Christy Curley
CLASS Advisor

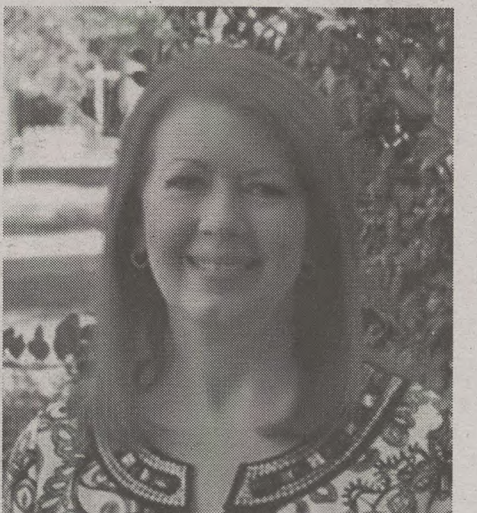
PHOTO COURTESY OF CHRISTY CURLEY



Pam Smith
CHHS Advisor



Bryan Bulmer
CHHS Advisor



Lisa Sapp
COBA Advisor

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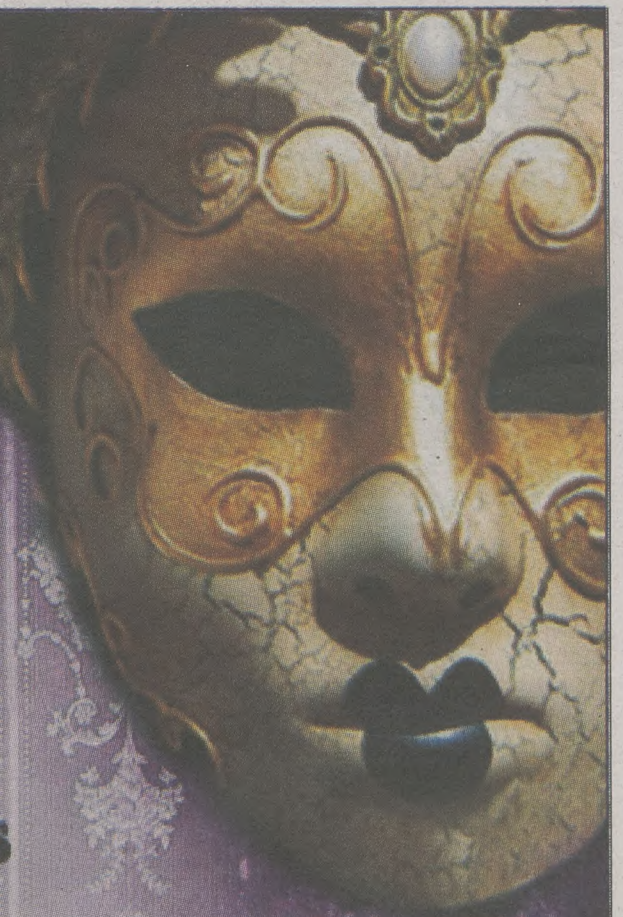
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WILL PEEBLES THE GEORGE-ANNE

CONSTRUCTING A

"METAMORPHOSES"

BY WILL PEEBLES
The George-Anne staff

Two days before the opening night of "Metamorphoses", set designer Olivia Carter politely tosses out notes and suggestions to her crew. Her demeanor remains as calm as the surface of the pool in the center of the Black Box Theater.

Carter's extravagant set looms overhead, a geometric collage of sharp angles and projected color. Each crystalline column and hovering piece of the installation has been carefully adjusted and readjusted during the past week of intensive tech rehearsals. Her voice is calm amidst the whirring of power tools that echoes through the Center for Art and Theatre.

"People keep asking me, 'Are you stressed? Are you worried?', but I'm not. I'm actually really calm and chill, which is strange and not normal for me," Carter said.

Carter's road to "Metamorphoses" began almost a year ago, when director Lisa Abbott named the show as one of the theatre department's mainstage productions for spring semester. Abbott chose the production because of its postmodern style, and be-

cause it offered her a chance to feature dancing and extensive choreography onstage.

"The director always works closely with the designers. Olivia and I have been discussing the show since last spring. As a director I set the framework for the show so that the designers work within the same idea to give unity to the show," Abbott said.

Carter worked extensively with Abbott while researching, interpreting and conceptualizing the set. "Metamorphoses" is a postmodern take on the mythology from "The Metamorphoses of Ovid," a collection of Ovid's myths spanning the beginning of time to the reign of Julius Caesar. American theatre director and playwright Mary Zimmerman chose to bring seven of Ovid's tales to life in her postmodern theatrical version of "Metamorphoses."

This show was Carter's first venture into set design. As a senior honor student, she is required to produce an honors thesis before she graduates in the fall. She will be presenting "Metamorphoses" as her honors thesis. A student set designer in a main stage production is somewhat unheard of at

GSU, but Carter knew what she was getting into.

"This is a big show to have a student design for, especially for a first time designer. I like challenging myself. I like taking on too much. I just like that challenge," Carter said.

Carter was in luck. Zimmerman's play calls for a potentially challenging set feature: a shallow pool in the middle of the stage. The pool itself is a centerpiece for the performance, and acts as both a platform for acting and dancing, and as an ever-changing set piece. Over the course of the performance, the water is used to represent the extravagant pool of King Midas, the River Styx, a washing basin and even the watery wrath of Poseidon.

Her research process was meticulous and specific. Abbott suggested that she look into the minimalist, representative styles of non-illusionist designers Appia and Craig. To further connect the performance to its roots in Greek mythology, Carter based the color palette of the set on the blue and sandy white rooftops of Grecian islands bordering the Aegean Sea. She wanted to find a better way to show one character, Myrrah, dissolving into tears.

Carter explained that while developing her idea, she refused to watch any other productions of "Metamorphoses" because she didn't want to accidentally steal the ideas of other designers.

In addition to the pool, a "Metamorphoses" production usually features a chandelier hanging from the ceiling. The hanging geometric installations of Carter's set are a nod to the chandelier; she explained that the angular shapes better fit her vision for the moving, ever-changing set.

As the title implies, the central theme of "Metamorphoses" is change. After researching the show and consulting with Abbott, Carter found ways to apply that central theme to Zimmerman's semi-aquatic production.

Carter extended the pool, and added a deeper section that would allow actors to enter and exit the stage from underwater. The swim-under entrance opened a lot of doors for Abbott's staging and blocking as well: Myrrah could now melt into tears and seemingly dissolve in a cloud of fog and mist; Poseidon could rise from the depths, trident in hand, as he destroys Ceyx's ship.

"It's fun. I've been coming to a lot of rehearsals, just because it's fun to watch the actors work with the set," Carter said.

The art of set design is one of collaboration, and many teams of people have to coordinate in order for a show to work. Both Carter and Abbott stress the importance of working with people from other aspects of the production to achieve the spectacle that is "Metamorphoses."

"We have to work together to meet the needs of the text, the actors and the director's ideas for movement and blocking," Abbott said.

"The biggest difference between making individual art and art in the sense of theatre is the collaboration. It isn't so much: 'Yay, I did it!,' as it is: 'Guys, look what we made,'" Carter said.

When Carter talks about what she and her crew made, she speaks modestly and passionately. Her work is mostly finished at this point, spare a few slight adjustments after the final pair of rehearsals. Carter's set, as well as the rest of "Metamorphoses" will be in the Black Box Theater until March 11.

Carter said, "I'm just excited for everyone to see it, because we've all worked so hard on it."

THE PASTRY PROJECT



BY MEG ELWOOD
The George-Anne staff

The Pastry Project, Georgia Southern University's latest non-profit organization, brings sweet treats to the Rotunda weekly.

The project began in October under current group president Bailey Webster, senior Engineering major. Every week she or volunteer members of the group will sell hand-made baked goods such as cookies and cake slices.

"I just love doing it. It has nothing to do with my major, I just love baking," Webster said. "We also don't bake from the box, we're not about that life."

All of the baked goods are sold from \$2 to 50 cents. They can be found in the Rotunda next Wednesday, following an alternating weekly schedule.

HOLD UP, THIS IS "NON PROFIT" RIGHT?

Yes; The Pastry Project is a non-profit group, and all donations are given to the Wounded Warrior Project.

"I chose the Wounded Warrior Project because they do so many great things for soldiers that have been wounded in action defending our country. So, I mean, they fought and sacrificed for us, the least I could do is to

raise some money for them," Webster said.

AND THESE STUDENT BENEFITS?

Not only do members use their time in a nice way, but also learn about how to bake. If baking isn't really your thing that's no problem; they also have a marketing team that is looking for creative or interested members.

Members also receive the benefit of volunteer hours which add up by time graduation rolls around. Having recorded volunteer hours shows active

community involvement during future job interviews, demonstrating how dedicated you are with your time.

INTERESTED?

Search for The Pastry Project in MyInvolvement and request to be a part of the group.

Or, if you more of an "in-person" type of person, go to one of their meetings held every Monday at 5:30 p.m. in room 2054 of the Russell Union.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE PASTRY PROJECT

The Pastry Project, a new student organization on campus, benefits the wounded warrior project and gives students some sweet opportunities.

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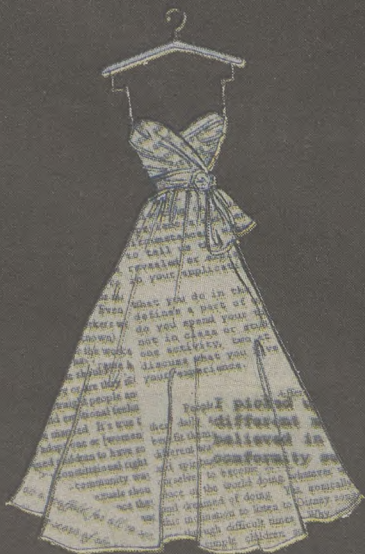
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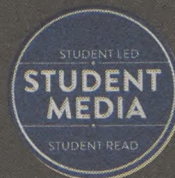


5TH ANNUAL NEWSPAPER DRESS MAKING COMPETITION

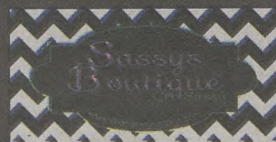
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3.5.15

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You dare defend your rights?

Alabama ceases same-sex marriage



CONNER WHITE

White is a senior multimedia communications major from Fayetteville, Ga.

Alabama's highest state court ordered probate judges to cease issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples, despite the federal ruling that declared their ban unconstitutional. As the majority of states have legalized gay marriage over the past few years, Alabama seems content to go down kicking and screaming. To those in favor of the decision, the state motto of "We dare defend our rights" agrees with their beliefs. To those against it, it's nothing short of a slap in the face.

This isn't the first time Alabama's resisted a federal ruling. It wasn't that long ago when they fought against couples of different races marrying, and earlier still when different races were to be kept separate altogether.

Separate, but equal.

This is a phrase that, while not originally created for its defense, is as relevant to

same-sex marriage as it was to segregation. Those who oppose it stand in front of crowds and committees and argue that these separations are paramount to their society, which is nothing more than a bold-faced lie. It breaks my heart to know that there are millions of people out there who still seem to vehemently oppose being on the non-hateful side of history.

Many of those against same-sex marriage argue that it is because it violates their religious beliefs, be them from any of the three Abrahamic religions to one of their own personal creation. This dilapidated argument is useless in the face of common sense, namely because the United States was not and never was founded under religious beliefs, despite many's insistence of the opposite. You can find digital copies of both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, and in both documents, there are no references to its founding under religious beliefs whatsoever. Don't believe me? Find the documents yourself. In the Constitution, the words "Jesus," "Christianity," "God" are not present, and the word "Lord" is used once, in the archaic phrase "year of our Lord" to describe the date.

There is also a document entitled the Treaty of Tripoli, a diplomatic agreement between the United States and the Ottoman Empire in 1797, that contains this phrase: "the

Government of the United States of America is not, in any sense, founded on the Christian religion." This agreement was proposed by then-President John Adams, and was ratified unanimously by the Senate. Not a single member opposed it. While not drafted for the express purpose of freeing statehood from religion, it clearly illustrates their beliefs. So how religious groups fight against same-sex marriage under the umbrella argument of their country being founded on faith is beyond me.

Opponents also argue that marriage is defined in law as the matrimony between only a man and woman, and technically they're correct. In Georgia's state law, legislation defines marriage as between a man and woman only. The Defense of Marriage Act, a 1996 piece of federal legislation, echoes this sentiment, allowing states to enact their own definitions as law. However, Section 3 of the law, the inclusion that defined marriage as only between man and woman, was overturned in 2013 on the grounds of unconstitutionality.

This means that the foundation of states' laws banning same-sex marriage crumbled over two years ago, which retroactively reverses the decision to allow states to decide from themselves. To illustrate this concept, the politicians still fighting this reversal "shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the



sand. And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it."

Yes, I just quoted the Bible. The Gospel According to Matthew, to be exact. With every state to legalize same-sex marriage, another pillar supporting this "house" disappears.

Religiously, the bans have no place. Legally, the bans have no foundation. But the most important thing to take away is that morally, the bans are wrong. Traditional marriages will in no way be diluted by allowing two women or two men to marry one another, and there's no reason to exclude them from doing so. If you want to continue and fight same-sex marriage, so be it. But I will ask you this:

Are you so desperate for something to fight, that you're willing to choose how others love?

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

The George-Anne is the official student newspaper of Georgia Southern University, operated by GSU students using facilities provided by the university. The newspaper is the oldest continuously published newspaper in Bulloch County.

The newspaper is published twice weekly, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, during most of the academic year. Any questions regarding content should be directed to the student editor by phone at 912.478.5246 or at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu.

ADVERTISING: The newspaper accepts advertising. Inquiries may be made by calling 912.478.5418 or 912.478.0566. For questions e-mail ads1@georgiasouthern.edu.

The George-Anne receives additional support, in part, from the Student Activities Budget Committee. For more information, rate cards, or sample publications, contact the advertising manager or student media director. The advertiser is responsible for any errors in advertisements and its liability for adjustments is limited to the amount of space the error occupied in the ad. Further, the newspaper is not responsible for any damages caused due to an ad's omission from a particular edition and its responsibility solely is to reschedule the ad in the next regular edition at the regular advertising rates.

STUDENTS BEWARE: The George-Anne screens all advertisements prior to publication. The newspaper strives to accept ads for legitimate products and services only. Students are urged to exercise caution when replying to ads-- particularly those that require personal information. Students are also urged to report to the newspaper any suspicious offers which they might see in an ad.

PUBLICATION INFORMATION: The newspaper is printed by The Brunswick News in Brunswick, Ga.

NOTICE: Unauthorized removal of multiple copies from a distribution site constitutes theft under Georgia law, a misdemeanor offense punishable by a fine and/or jail time.

CORRECTIONS: Contact the editor at gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu for corrections and errors.

The George-Anne apologizes if anyone was offended in regards to the front page that ran Tuesday March 3. It was in no way the intention of the paper to make any sort of mockery of the fatal shooting that occurred over the weekend. Any concerns regarding this incident can be sent to gaeditor@georgiasouthern.edu

BILLS ARE FOR STUDENTS, TOO



ANDREW SMALLWOOD

Smallwood is a junior political science major from Cumming, Ga. He is the floor leader's congressional intern at the state capitol.

Off the top of your head, can you name your state senator? How about your

elected official in the Georgia House of Representatives? Odds are you haven't a clue, and that's fine. People our age aren't concerned with politics, and we definitely don't bother ourselves with the inferior state government. However, this might just change your mind.

State Governments wield vast and uncontested 'police powers.' This jurisdiction applies to everything from the drinking age to hunting licenses, and from taxes to education. These things impact our everyday lives, and there are a few proposed bills that significantly affect college aged students that I'd hope you'd want to make note of.

Underage drinking is a documented occurrence in Statesboro and across the nation. However, there is a bill proposed by Senator Michael Williams (from Forsyth County) that would lower the penalty of being caught. As the law stands, any person under the age of 21 in possession of alcohol, or intoxicated with it, is to be arrested and fined. Senate Bill 160 changes that law. Under the proposed bill, an underage partaker of alcoholic beverages will only be arrested if the officer determines the individual to be a danger to themselves or society. Otherwise, the officer can simply write a ticket. This allows you the ability

to pay a fine and come out unscathed by the black mark of an arrest record if you ever find yourself on the wrong side of the law.

There are over 700 bills proposed in the State Legislature right now. No matter your focus, there are multiple bills that apply directly to you. Working at the Capitol, I field an immense amount of correspondences on a daily basis. However, I don't think I've spoken with a constituent under the age of 30. If you don't like the way things are, you have power enough to change it; why not start wielding it?

See more at www.thegeorgeanne.com

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MARK GARNO

A TRUE BLUE FAN

BY LAYNE SALIBA
The George Anne staff

If you have been to a Georgia Southern men's basketball game, you know who this guy is. No, he's not the mascot. No, he's not the coach. And no, he's not a player. Some people may say he's the life of the party. But in his mind, he is just a Yankee.

Husband of Georgia Southern's Bachelor of Science in Nursing program director, Mark Garno grew up in Albany, N.Y. rooting on the New York

Knicks. He graduated from the University at Albany, but after taking a job at a Statesboro hospital in 1995, Garno realized how much he loved the city.

"It took a little while to get used to the culture," Garno said. "But I'd rather be here than in upstate New York."

Of course, if he was going to love the city of Statesboro, he had to love Georgia Southern as well. Luckily, for him that was not very hard.

"It's a wonderful university. And the folks that don't realize that need

to wake up and realize that this is a wonderful academic university, and it's a wonderful sports university," Garno said.

He has been to every basketball game in Hanner this season. And of course, sitting in the stands wasn't good enough. Garno and his wife have courtside seats this season and without fail, they are in those seats every time the Eagles take the court. Throughout the game, Garno yells, cheers, heckles and dances.

He will sometimes even run halfway down the court in excitement, only to find out that the referee does not like that. However, that does not stop him from dancing just moments later as students behind him look on – and others join in.

Occasionally, he will get down on his knees and hit the ground with his hands in frustration, and then jump to his feet in enthusiasm. Honestly, it is all a guessing game with Garno. Nevertheless, one thing is certain; there is never a dull moment at a basketball game as long as he is there.

"I'm pretty outgoing and always have been. And if it's anything I can do to support the kids playing or try to get some more of the fans involved I'm going to do it," Garno said.

And he truly means that. Garno cares about the students on the court and the ones in the stands.

"What makes Georgia Southern special to me is the students and the athletes we get here," Garno said. "They're all just very good kids. So, that's another reason why I support this school so much."

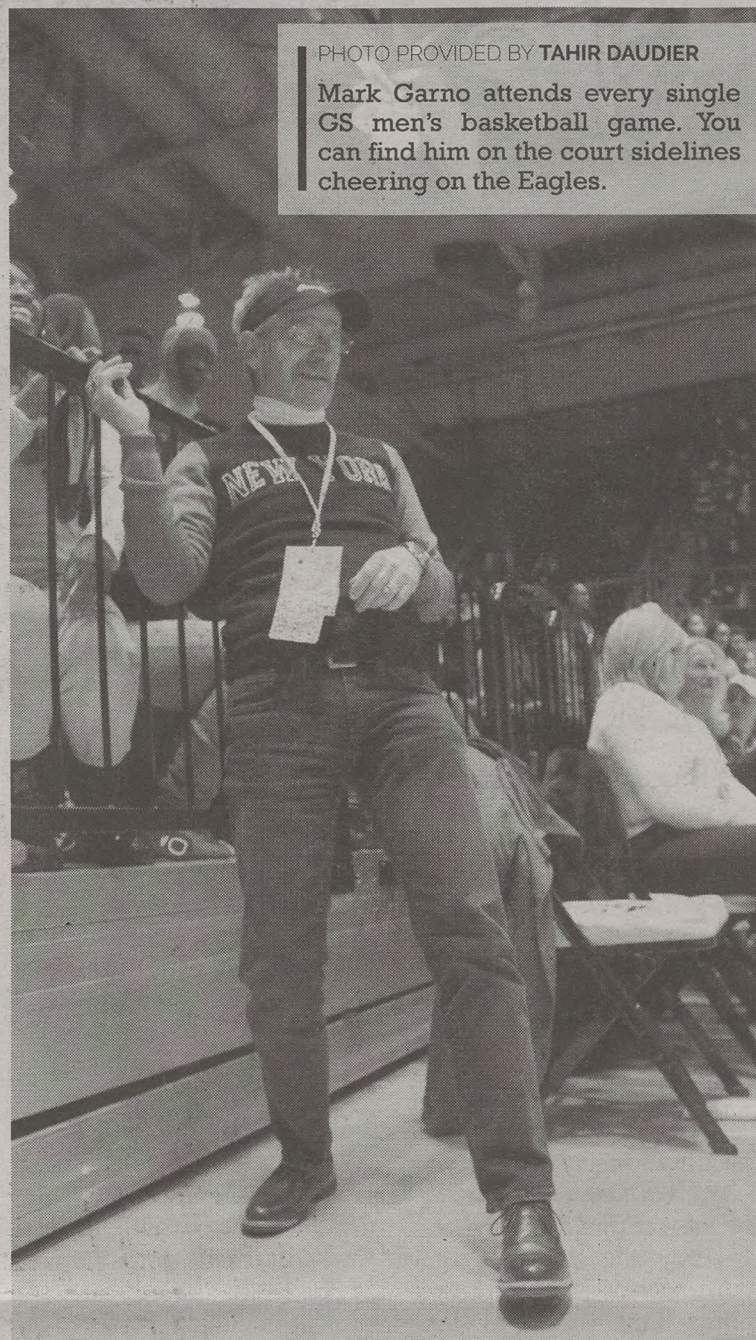
Garno especially enjoys watching the seniors play. The leadership he sees from players like Matias, Ferguson, Diamond and Wiedeman is unmatched. These players have done their time and have taken the younger players under their wing and helped show them how things are done.

However, Garno would be remised if he did not mention Jelani Hewitt.

"Hewitt is worth the price of admission. He's definitely worth the price of the ticket," Garno said.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY TAHIR DAUDIER

Mark Garno attends every single GS men's basketball game. You can find him on the court sidelines cheering on the Eagles.



He understands that it is not all about athletics though. There is more to Georgia Southern than that. He knows that Georgia Southern is a quality academic university that has students that make the experience fun as well.

"There's a nice balance between sports and academics here. There are good kids at this university. And because of that, I get a lot of entertainment by rooting for Georgia Southern," Garno said. "You don't see this at my alma mater. You don't see this at the University at Albany, so I've been spoiled being a Georgia Southern fan."

However, there is more than meets the eye when it comes to Mark Garno. When he is not dancing on the sidelines of Hanner Fieldhouse, he is doing a number of different things.

"I'm a full-time househusband now," Garno said. "But, I do some teaching in clinical supervision for Pineland Mental Health and Substance Abuse. I also do a therapy group two nights a week at a local men's halfway house called Arch. So that keeps me pretty busy."

Not only does Garno care about the athletes and the students at Georgia Southern, he cares about the Statesboro

community as well. Garno is a recovering alcoholic who took his last drink of what he called "yellow Coca-Cola" on Nov. 22, 1982. The experiences he has had throughout his life dealing with his alcohol addiction has molded him into a man that wants nothing more than to help others.

He is a certified clinical supervisor and addiction counselor in the state of Georgia. So, not only does he have the life-experience to help others, he also has the book knowledge to help others in the area of beating alcohol addiction.

"It's an awesome field to get into. Getting into the field of alcohol and drug addiction treatment is really rewarding because alcoholism is a disease that does not have to be fatal," Garno said. "People do recover and go on and live really great lives. So it's rewarding to see the successes that your patients have if they truly get and stay clean and sober."

So next time you see him on the sidelines, remember that he is not just a fan of the Georgia Southern Eagles. Know that Mark Garno is a special part of the Statesboro community that plans to keep on dancing.

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Undergraduate Admissions

BY LAYNE SALIBA
The George-Anne staff

Tonight will be the last time you see the Georgia Southern University men's basketball team in Hanner Fieldhouse this season. The seniors will be honored and the team will play in hopes of remaining No. 1 in the Sun Belt.

There are three teams atop the conference – Georgia Southern, Georgia State and UL Monroe.

The remaining schedules for these teams are interesting as all of them play at least one of the others in the last two games of the season.

For Georgia Southern, that team is Georgia State. But before the Eagles look to Georgia State, UT Arlington stands in the way.

The last time the two teams met was Tuesday, Dec. 30 in Arlington. This was the Eagles' first Sun Belt game, and they came out on the losing side.

Although Georgia Southern was leading with just seconds to go, the Mavericks made a layup with 14.1 remaining on the clock to take the lead and ultimately beat the Eagles by one point.

Georgia Southern is looking for a much different outcome this time when the Mavericks come to Statesboro. This game may also be a little more important than when the teams first met. Georgia Southern must win in order to stay at the top of the conference.

With the Sun Belt Tournament quickly approaching, it is important to be the No. 1 or No. 2 seeds so that you are automatically propelled to the semi-finals. Not to mention, the team you would face will have just played the previous night.

Georgia Southern must come out with a win tonight in order to get that No. 1 or No. 2 spot.

With senior forward Angel Matias likely out for the game, other players must step up. Redshirt senior forward Trent Wiedeman will need to be a force down low, and redshirt senior forward Eric Ferguson will need to follow suit. Ferguson did not have trouble under the basket against Arlington last time. He recorded a season high 16 rebounds – eight offensive and eight defensive.

Redshirt senior guard Jelani Hewitt needs to have a good night and take smart shots from the perimeter as well. The Eagles shot 35 percent from the field last time and 19 percent from the three. Hewitt, freshman guard Jake Allsmiller and others have to make shots that increase that percentage if the Eagles hope to beat UT Arlington.

With the seniors being honored and the conference tournament on the horizon, the Eagles need this win so they can go into the Georgia State game with confidence and earn a semi-final berth in their first Sun Belt Tournament.

Eagles' season coming to a close



BRANDON WARNOCK THE GEORGE-ANNE
Seniors Angel Matias and Trent Wiedeman are a strong duo in the paint. They both have posted 152 rebounds this season.

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SENIORS FINAL DEBUT IN HANNER

BY COLIN RITSICK
The George-Anne staff

Tonight is Senior Night, a night to honor the men who've paid their dues in sweat and blood for Georgia Southern basketball – a night to make it all about the guys who won't be here next year.

But that's not what they want. All they want is a win.

"We don't want it to be about us, we want it to be about Georgia Southern and the collective student body and getting to the NCAA tournament. This game right here is a big game," senior forward Eric Ferguson said.

Ferguson has been here for five years.

He was here when the team went 5-27 in 2010-2011. He was here when the only people in the stands at Hanner Fieldhouse were friends and

family. And he's here now, on a team that is 20-7 and fighting for the No. 1 seed in the Sun Belt tournament – fighting to make it to the Big Dance.

Beating Texas-Arlington tonight is a crucial step towards that goal, and the seniors want the fans to know that.

"The fans give us that extra edge. When we're down... we know they're going to get hectic and make it hard for the other team. And that's going to give us the extra push to keep playing hard. The fans are a big part of our success," senior guard Curtis Diamond said.

Although they deflect the attention, make no mistake – this year, and this team, is about the seniors.

"Georgia Southern basketball has not been successful in a long time and these guys have already done a lot; they still have a

lot in front of them to do. What they've done with this program, the students should be proud," head coach Mark Byington said.

Seven seniors are on the team: Jelani Hewitt, Trent Wiedeman, Angel Matias, Diamond, Ferguson, D.J. Suter and Zach Altany.

Byington doesn't think he's ever been around a team with seven seniors. This much experience on a college team is rare. It makes his job easier, he said.

"There's nothing like experience...by the time you get to your senior year,

you've been through a lot. They've been through a lot and not all were great times," Byington said.

It's been almost 10 years since Georgia Southern has won more games than it's lost. This is the first winning season at GS since 2005-2006.

They're not satisfied with a good season. They want the world to know their goal is to make it to the NCAA tournament.

"I talk to those guys about leaving a legacy. If you go through your career and nobody remembers you later on, then I don't think

you accomplished what you came to do," Byington said.

The Eagles are in a three-way tie for first place in the conference with Georgia State and UL Monroe. A No. 1 or a No. 2 seed gets a double-bye in the Sun Belt tournament – which means they only have to win two games to win the tournament.

Matias said, "I think [the fans] need to come watch us play the last home game. I think they're as excited as we are. We're trying to get a win. It's a big game. We need a win to make sure we get this 1 or 2 seed for the tournament."

PHOTOS BRANDON WARNOCK THE GEORGE-ANNE



JELANI HEWITT
guard
6'2"
18.2 ppg



CURTIS DIAMOND
guard
6'3"
8.1 ppg



TRENT WEIDEMAN
forward
6'8"
11.7 ppg



D.J. SUTER
guard
6'4"
1.7 ppg



ERIC FERGUSON
forward
6'8"
7.8 ppg



ANGEL MATIAS
forward
6'4"
8.2 ppg



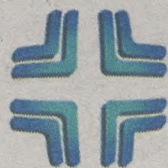
ZACH ALTANY
guard
6'4"
.8 ppg

College Health Tip #13

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